

March 18, 1975

I see Senator Clark shaking his head over there; we're going to get into more serious trouble. I think we should defeat the DeCamp amendment and proceed with the business before us.

PRESIDENT: Senator Luedtke.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: What's this?

PRESIDENT: Your light was on Senator Luedtke.

SENATOR LUEDTKE: Oh, I was just going to concur in what Senator Barnett and Senator Schmit said. This is a matter that can be easily resolved by Mr. Sullivan going down to the Appropriations Committee, stating his case, and get an appropriation. The court system itself has to go to the Appropriations Committee and get their money back out for the costs of running the courts of the State of Nebraska. The only thing this bill is trying to do is to say to the people, who are violating the laws of the State of Nebraska, 'when you are in these courts and you must pay court costs, we are going to try to cover those costs.' It is peculiar indeed that every time we have a bill up here that is an attempt to bring money into the coffers of the State of Nebraska we have so much difficulty. This is another 1/3 of a million dollars back into the general fund. Seemingly we're trying to attack it, trying to break it away from the court system, to which it belongs. It's a very important bill. We need it for the operation of the judiciary. If the system is to operate properly it ought to pay for itself this way.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dickinson.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, would Senator DeCamp yield to a question or two please?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Yes.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Senator DeCamp, has this amendment been printed in the Journal or publicised in any manner so that we would have had prior opportunity to know about it?

SENATOR DeCAMP: No it was not. It was my understanding the bill, in a previous . . .

SENATOR DICKINSON: You answered my question, Senator. I have another one. Can you explain how come some of us, at least I, have gotten mail urging me to vote for this amendment from various emergency medical service units around the state, when I had no way of knowing, as a legislator, what the amendment was, or that there was even to be one?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Well I'm not handling that part of it. All I'm doing . . .

SENATOR DICKINSON: Whose handling that part of it, do you know?

SENATOR DeCAMP: All I'm doing is proposing an amendment on behalf of an agency of state government that says they need this particular money for a particular purpose. From everything that I could learn I believe they need the money for a particular purpose. I believe the money properly should come out of this fund. It's from offenders.